Ministry by the Ministry of Surface Transport within three months.

(xii) The Ministry of Surface Transport and Bombay Port Trust must take action to gradually make the land of Bombay Port, which is not required for operational purposes of the Port, available for greening and recreation. A time frame and an action programme in this regard should be forwarded to this Ministry by the Ministry of Surface Transport within six months.

(ii) The NSPT must draw up a Disaste anagement Plan and get it approved by the nodal department of the State Government and forward it to this Ministry for approval.

(xiv) There must not be any cutting of trees in any area of the NSPT.

(xv) The operation of the berth of the NSPT which falls within 200 metres of the protected zone of the Elephanta Caves should be controlled with adequate safeguards so that there is no damage to the Elephanta Caves.

(xvi) Adequate measures for protection of Elephanta Caves, particularly from SO2 emissions from the vessels funnels and from vibrations must be taken. Regular monitoring in the Elephanta Caves must be done for this purpose at the cost of the NSPT.

(xvii) An Environmental Division must be set up in the NSPT which will consist of one Environmental Manager, two Environmental Engineers, two Forest Officers, four Laboratory Assistants and 13 Forest Guards. An Environmental Laboratory for water, air and solid waste monitoring must be set up with adequate equipment and qualified staff. The approximate capital cost for the Laboratory which will be Rs. 50 lakhs must be provided in the Project cost. The annual recurring cost for the Laboratory and the Environmental Division must be provided for in the Annual budgets of the Port.

(xviii) The minimum financial requirements for meeting the above conditions, that is Rs. 8.1 crores besides the annual recurring cost, must be provided for in the Project cost. The annual recurring cost for the different items for environmental protections must be provided for in each year's Annual budget of the Port.

Discussions with China on smuggling of AK-47-rifles

1439. SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the matter regarding smuggling/sale of Chinese AK-47 rifles and their falling into the hands of the Punjab extremists was taken up with the Chinese Government during the recent visit of Prime Minister to that country; and

(b) if so, what has been the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

The Chinese Government have stated that reports of assistance by China to terrorists in the Punjab were "surely a false rumour and not worth refuting."

Government have taken note of the above statement.

Manmad-Aurangabad railway broadgaugation

1440. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Maharashtra Government has requested for permission to float debentures/bonds for Manmad-Aurangabad Railway broadgaugation; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.